

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

July 15, 1998

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC 20554**

In the Matter of
Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM (LPFM) Broadcast Service

FCC RM-9242

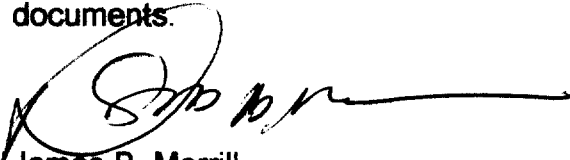
To: Federal Communications Commission

Reply-Comments of James B. Merrill
In Support of RM-9242

I find it hard to believe that one should have to express and hope for the same ideals set forth by our forefathers who knew full well the pit falls of undue censorship. I ask you, has not the voice of the people been tested before? Have we as a nation not fought and died for liberty and freedom abroad?

The United States has become the model for the world because of her freedom to speak without fear of repression and imprisonment. We have grown far beyond the expectations of past generations here and throughout the world because of the unbroken human spirit freedom provides for all.

How will history judge us in the matter of community radio? Would you let it say we as a people had a hand in the eroding of our own freedom to communicate ideals and cultures so grand to be the envy of all the world? Or would it read the people of 1998 had the foresight to strengthen the 1934 Communications Act. We have the power to write this history now. If wrong, let us stand among the accused that erred on the side of liberty and free speech. Support of the Skinner petition, RM-9242, would prove our government still works and the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States are more than just museum pieces... They are living, breathing documents.


James B. Merrill
8429 Roseland Ct.
Oak Park, MI. 48237
248-544-6481

No. of Copies rec'd 029
List ABCDE MMB

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, JAMES B MERRILL, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing "Reply-Comments on RM-9242 was sent via first-class mail, this 15th day of July 1998 to the following parties.

Henry L. Baumann
Executive Vice-President and General Counsel
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS
1771 N Street NW
Washington DC 20036

Counsel for State Broadcasters Associations
Richard R. Zaragoza
David D. Oxenford
FISHER WAYLAND COOPER LEADER & ZARAGOZA L.L.P.
2001 Pennsylvania Ave NW Ste 400
Washington DC 20006-1851

Counsel for USA Digital Radio, L.P.
Robert A. Mazer
Albert Shuldiner
VINSON & ELKINS, L.L.P.
1455 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20004-1008

American Community AM Broadcasters, Inc.
(ACAMBA), Bryan Smeathers, President
PO Box 973, Central City KY 42330

RM-9242 Petitioner
J. Rodger Skinner, Jr./President
TRA Communications Consultants, Inc.
6431 NW 65th Terrace
Pompano Beach FL 33067-1546